



UNIVERSITY OF GENOA
POST-DEGREE DEPARTMENT
HIGH-LEVEL ACADEMIC TRAINING SERVICES

Notice of Public Exam for the admission to the PhD school of Life and Humanoid Technologies – 28th cycle.
Deadline for applications: 21 September 2012.

Chancellor's Decree No. 748

THE CHANCELLOR

Having taken the following into account:

- Law 476 of 13.08.1984, published in the G.U. (Gazzetta Ufficiale – Official Gazette, hereafter G.U.) No. 229 on 21.08.1984 concerning the rules and regulations governing grants and Ph.D.s in universities, and subsequent modifications and integrations;
- Law 398 of 30.11.1989, published in the G.U. No. 291 on 14.12.1989 containing rules and regulations for university grants, and subsequent modifications and integrations;
- Article 4 of Law 210 of 03.07.1998, published in the G.U. No. 155 on 06.07.1998, which entrusts the Ph.D. management to the single universities which provide their own regulations;
- The Ministerial Decree No. 224 of 30.04.1999, published in the G.U. No. 162 on 13.07.1999, with which the Rules and Regulations relative to Ph.D.s were issued and which determine the general criteria and the requirements concerning the suitability of the venues for the setting up of Ph.D. courses;
- The Decree of the President of the Republic No. 445 of 28.12.2000, published in the G.U. No. 42 on 20.02.2001, containing the legislative provisions relative to administrative documentation, and subsequent modifications and integrations;
- The Decree of the Prime Minister of 09.04.2001, published in the G.U. No. 172 on 26.07.2001 relating to the uniformity of treatment regarding the right to university education;
- The University Student Rules and Regulations issued by the Chancellor's Decree No. 228 of 25.09.2001, and subsequent modifications and integrations;
- The Ministerial Decree, No. 270 of 22.10.2004, published in the G.U. No. 266 on 26.11.2004, containing the modifications to the rules and regulations concerning the norms for the didactic autonomy of the universities, as approved by the Minister for Universities and Scientific and Technological Research, No. 509 of 3 November 1999;
- The Chancellor's Decree No. 1199 of 22.01.2007 containing the Rules and Regulations for the Doctoral Schools of Research of the University of Genoa, and subsequent modifications and integrations;
- Law No. 240 of 30.12.2010 published in the G.U. No. 10 of 14.01.2011 containing rules and regulations concerning the organisation of universities, academic personnel and employment, as well as Government Power of Attorney to boost the quality and efficacy of the university system;
- The Statute of the University of Genoa, issued by the Chancellor's Decree No. 490 of 07.12.2011, published in the G.U. General Series No. 290 on 14.12.2011, and subsequent modifications and integrations;
- The proposals for the setting up of doctoral research courses – 28th cycle – with administrative headquarters at the University of Genoa submitted by the Departments and the competent structures for the coordination of university research defined by the Statute;
- The resolutions of the Academic Senate in the sessions of 24.04.2012 and of 12.06.2012;
- The resolution of the Board of Governors during the session of 24.04.2012;
- The favourable opinion of the Evaluating Unit of the University for efficiency and efficacy during the meeting of 03.05.2012;
- The Agreement drawn up on 27.06.2012 between the University of Genoa and the *Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia* Foundation, which sets up the Doctoral School in "Life and Humanoid Technologies" financing eighty-seven grants;
- The text of the agreement entered into by and between IIT and the University of Genoa by means of which the yearly amount of the grant to attend the courses of the PhD "Life and Humanoid Technologies" has been established at Euro 16,500.00 gross, excluding social security expenses to be paid by the receiver;

DECREES THE FOLLOWING

Art. 1 – Implementation

1. A public exam will be held for admission to the courses of the PhD Research School – 28th Cycle – named "Life and Humanoid Technologies" which lasts three years with its administrative headquarters at the University of Genoa. The School has been set up in agreement with the *Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia* Foundation (hereafter IIT). The reference department: IT, Systems and Telematic Information Department (Dipartimento di Informatica, Sistemistica e Telematica - DIST).

The school is organized into 4 doctoral courses:

1. Drug Discovery (code 4859);
2. Nanosciences (code 4860);
3. Neuroscience and Brain Technologies (code 4861);
4. Robotics, Cognition and Interaction Technologies (code 4862).

Details on all the Courses of the School with reference to the location, Coordinator and members of the Teaching Body, on the educational goals and Research themes of each course are described in appendixes A-1, A-2, A-3 and A-4 of the notice.

2. The selection of candidates is based on the evaluation of qualifications/publications.
3. For the present public notice, by qualifications/publications we hereby mean: the information reported in the application and curriculum, and further qualifications/publications as per art. 3, paragraph 3.
4. The number of grants may be increased on the basis of special agreements with public and private bodies, to be defined before the expiry date of this public notice.
5. The increase in the number of grants may determine an increase in the number of Doctoral candidates, although the maximum number of places cannot exceed double the amount of grants of differing kinds activated for the Ph.D. course. Supernumerary places as per paragraph 4 of art. 6 of the Rules and Regulations of the Doctoral Research Schools of the University of Genoa are excluded from the calculation.
6. The information, concerning each single course, is published in appendixes A-1, A-2, A-3 and A-4 of this public notice and if necessary updated/amended by means of the University website, on page <http://www.studenti.unige.it/postlaurea/dottorati/>.

Art. 2 – Admission Requirements

1. Candidates who – within the expiry date of this public notice – hold a degree which has been conferred according to the rules and regulations in force prior to the reform of didactic autonomy in universities, or a specialist/postgraduate degree or an equivalent foreign academic qualification, may apply for the selection procedure without age or citizenship limitations. Candidates who obtain their degree after the expiry date of this notice shall be admitted with reserve as long as they receive their degree within the final date of 31 October 2012.
2. In the case of a degree obtained abroad and judged suitable, should the qualifications not have been already deemed equivalent, the candidate shall require that this recognition be granted for public exam purposes only. In such cases candidates shall also enclose the following documents:
 - a) a translation of the academic qualification duly notarized by the competent Italian diplomatic or consular office of the country in which the qualification was achieved;
 - b) a “Declaration of Worth” of the qualification drawn up by the same consular body.
3. The decree of equivalence shall be issued solely for admission to the public exam and to enrol on the course.
4. If the Italian diplomatic or consular office does not provide the documentation in time to submit one’s application, applicants should enclose all the documentation available. The consequent decree of equivalence shall be accepted on condition that the legal translation and the “Declaration of Worth” be presented within the deadline for enrolment on the courses by the candidates admitted.
5. The issuing of the abovementioned documentation and of a residence permit to participate in the tests and to attend the course to foreign nationals is regulated by the note of the Ministry for Education, Universities and Research, protocol No. 602 of 18 May 2011 (Rule and regulations for the access of foreign students to the courses for the three year period 2011/2014), available at the following address <http://www.studiare-in-italia.it/studentistranieri/5html>.

Art. 3 – Application for Admission

1. Applications for the selection procedure shall be submitted by means of the online procedure available at the address <http://servizionline.unige.it/studenti/post-laurea/dottorato>, by 12 noon (Italian time) of **21 September 2012** (expiry date of the public notice).

The application date of submission is certified by the electronic system which, at the expiry of the deadline, will no longer allow access and the sending of the application. The electronic system issues the receipt of the enrolment on the public exam which the candidate must print out and show on enrolment.
2. Applications shall report (self-certification) – under the candidates’ responsibility and at the risk of exclusion from the public exam – the following information:
 - a) the applicant’s full name, tax code, date and place of birth, place of residence, contact telephone number and postal address chosen for the purposes of this selection. Foreign nationals should supply an address in Italy, otherwise that of their Embassy in Italy as the agreed place of domicile. Tax codes can be omitted by foreign applicants if unavailable, though this should be clearly stated;
 - b) the title of the Ph.D. course the candidate is applying for, indicating the chosen research theme. The candidate may present his/her application for admission to no more than **two courses** in the School. **Please note that a separate application must be made for each course chosen. Applications submitted after 12 noon of 21 September 2012 shall not be taken into consideration.**
 - c) the applicant’s citizenship;
 - d) the type and name of the degree held, date, grade and name of the awarding University or the equivalent qualifications granted by a foreign University, as well as the documentation in which its equivalence has been granted or the request for equivalence issued for admission purposes solely as per art. 2. Should the candidate graduate after the expiry date for admission to the public exam selection procedure, as long as s/he holds a degree within and not later than **31 October 2012** s/he shall be admitted to the selection procedure with reserve and shall, **at the risk of exclusion from the public exam**, complete the application by means of self-certification of the awarded degree to be presented to the High Level Education Service (Servizio Alta Formazione), also by

fax to the following number 010/2099539 enclosing a copy of a valid document of identity, **within and not later than 31 October 2012** (postmarks will not be accepted as proof of posting);

- e) a statement whereby the candidate agrees to attend the doctorate course full-time, as per indications of the Teaching Body;
- f) adequate knowledge of English;
- g) a statement whereby the candidate undertakes to communicate each/any change in residence or address in time.

3. The following documents should also be attached by means of the on-line procedure:

- a) an identity document
- b) the candidates' *curriculum vitae et studiorum*.

This *curriculum* may include all the information relevant to the subject themes of the doctoral course the candidate has applied for. This information, for example, may concern: previous research and/or work experience, any other qualifications/publications (study qualifications included), certificates, publications, patents, etc.

c) a self-certifying statement concerning the truthfulness of the statements given and the authenticity of the documents attached to the application. This statement shall be submitted using the form available on the online procedure webpage, which must be printed out, filled in and signed by the person concerned and attached by means of the online procedure;

d) a document containing the title the thesis and a synthetic description, as well as a list of the examinations sat, the grades and, if possible, a brief description of the relative syllabuses;

e) a research project on one or more of the research themes of the doctoral course they are applying for as indicated in the A appendixes (ten pages maximum);

f) any other qualifications relative to the research themes dealt with in the course, each one not more than 10 pages long;

g) Candidates must choose not less than one and not more than three referees to support their candidature. These referees must be university professors or experts in the subject and it will be their concern to send the reference letters, within the deadline of the public notice, to the Coordinator of the Doctoral Course at the following addresses:

- **Drug Discovery** - Prof. Andrea Cavalli, Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia, Via Morego 30, 16163 Genova e-mail: PhD_D3@iit.it;
- **Nanosciences** - Prof. Alberto Giovanni Diaspro, Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia, Via Morego 30, 16163 Genova at the email address manuela.salvatori@iit.it;
- **Neuroscience and Brain Technologies** – Prof. Fabio Benfenati, email address nbtphdcourse@iit.it;
- **Robotics, Cognition and Interaction Technologies** Prof. Giulio Sandini, email address rcit-coordinator@iit.it.

The name, status and service place of the referees chosen by the candidates must be stated in their applications.

All the attachments must be uploaded in PDF format.

4. Pursuant to the Decree of the President of the Republic of the 28 December 2000, No. 445, the statements in the applications will be signed in the document as per paragraph 3 lett. c) and will also be considered self-certification; in the case of false documents and false statements penal sanctions foreseen by art. 76 of the abovementioned decree 455/2000 shall be applied. When the rules and regulations concerning substitute statements (D.P.R. n. 445/2000 and subsequent modifications and integrations), are not applicable, the candidates *are* however responsible (from a civil, administrative and penal point of view) for their statements.

This Administration reserves the right to ascertain the truthfulness of such statements – as governed by the laws in force. Candidates who make false statements shall automatically be excluded from enrolment and any grants awarded shall be retroactively withdrawn. Further administrative and/or penal sanctions foreseen by the laws and legislation in force may also be applied.

5. The University Administration cannot be held responsible for documentation which goes astray due to mistaken indications of residence and postal address given by the candidate and / or due to the fact that the candidate has not communicated any changes in time or has communicated them too late. Furthermore, this office cannot be held responsible for any mistakes in postal or telegraphic delivery.

6. The university reserves the right to enforce, even after the public exam is over, sanctions which exclude candidates who have failed to comply with or meet up to requirements herein established.

Art. 4 – Admission Procedures

1. Selective assessment for admission to the research doctoral courses is mainly concerned with establishing the candidates' aptitude for scientific research. For the selection, the examining Commission shall evaluate the scientific qualifications/publications submitted and the candidates' research programme, also in relation to the research themes of the public notice, giving a grade in hundredths. Candidates who score less than 70/100 in the evaluation shall be excluded from the merit-based short-list.

2. Should candidates obtain equal marks, grants shall be awarded on the basis of their economic situation, as per the D.P.C.M. 9 April 2001.

Art. 5 – Examining Commissions and their Functions

1. The Chancellor, at the request of the Teaching Body, appoints, by personal decree, the commission which will carry out the selective assessment of the candidates. The commission is made up of 3 members chosen from among university lecturers and tenured researchers to which not more than 2 experts, who may also be foreign nationals, chosen from public and private research institutions and structures, may be added.

2. Each examining commission shall establish the assessment criteria before viewing the applications and documentation submitted by the candidates.

3. The final lists shall be published on **3 December 2012**, only in the following ways:

- the notice board of the relative research Departments/structures;
- the notice board of the High Level Academic Training Services (Servizio Alta Formazione);
- the Internet website <http://www.studenti.unige.it/postlaurea/dottorati/>.

No information will be delivered to the candidates' addresses.

Art. 6 – Admission to the Courses

1. Candidates are admitted to the courses according to the order in which they appear on the final list until all available places have been assigned.

2. Candidates successfully positioned in the final list for a place in more than one doctoral course **shall choose** only one of them, under penalty of expiration, according to the terms indicated in article 8.
3. Research allowance holders adequately positioned on the final list shall be admitted to the courses without being entitled to a grant. They shall nevertheless maintain their research allowance.
- Nonetheless, the total number of candidates admitted to the courses shall in no case exceed the total number of places available, except for the places in excess as per paragraph 4 of art. 6 of the Rules and Regulations for the Ph.D. Schools of the University of Genoa.

Art. 7 – Grants

1. Grants are assigned according to the order of the final classification list.
2. Candidates who have been assigned the right to a grant may, in relation to the number and type of grants available, choose one among the various grants according to the order of the final classification list.
3. Candidates with equal grades will be granted funds on the basis of their incomes, as per D.P.C.M. 9 April 2001.
4. However, candidates who have been awarded a grant for a doctoral course – albeit for a single year – may not benefit from a second one.
5. The simultaneous use of other study grants is not allowed, except for those awarded by national or foreign institutions which integrate student research activities or training by means of trips abroad.
6. The annual gross amount including social security expenses to be paid by the recipient of each grant is 16.500,00 Euros.
7. The amount of the doctoral grant shall be increased by 50% for study periods abroad. Furthermore, during the three years of the course, the graduate student has the right to the reimbursement of the cost of one return travel ticket at the lowest fare available. Study periods abroad cannot exceed half the length of the course.
8. Study grants enjoy fiscal concessions referred to in art. 4 of Law No. 476 of 13.08.1984.

Art. 8 – Application schedule and contents

1. Candidates who have been admitted to the doctoral courses shall hand in or send their enrolment applications to the Dipartimento post-lauream – Servizio Alta Formazione (via Bensa, 1 – 2nd floor – Genova), according to the following deadlines.

3 December	publication of final lists and opening of enrolments
10 December	last date for candidates who have been assigned a grant to enrol
12 December	publication of the remaining grants/posts on the website http://www.studenti.unige.it/postlaurea/dottorati/
17 December	last date to enrol for candidates admitted to the courses without a grant and for candidates who have taken over the remaining grants/posts published with a notice on 12 December;
19 December	publication of the list of any other remaining grants/posts on the website http://www.studenti.unige.it/postlaurea/dottorati/
21 December	last date to enrol for candidates who take over any remaining grants/posts published with a notice on the 19 December;

The abovementioned dates are binding under penalty of expiration and postmarks shall not be deemed acceptable as proof of posting.

If applications are not sent in within these dates, it will be considered as a withdrawal from the course and (if awarded) grant.

Applications may be sent in advance by fax to 010-209 9539

Any remaining posts after the 21 December will be made known in the same ways as above.

2. The winners, besides stating their personal data and indicating the course and possibly the School chosen, shall also state the following in their applications:

- a) that s/he is not enrolled on any other doctoral course or other study course which assigns an academic qualification, even from another University or that they are enrolled on a medical specialization course, specifying the name of the course, place and year of enrolment. If this is the case, enrolment will be accepted with reserve while waiting for the issuing of the new Ministerial Rules and Regulations concerning PhDs.

Grant holders shall also declare that:

- b) they have never before been awarded grants for doctoral studies;
- c) their total gross annual income does not exceed € **13,000.00**. Alternatively, candidates should forfeit the grant if their income is greater than this amount (incomes are calculated on all kinds of incomes or emoluments);
- d) they will not add this grant to any other grant whatsoever except for those awarded by national or foreign institutions which may help to integrate the doctoral research activities with trips abroad;
- e) they agree to return the grant payments they may have received if they exceed the income limit.

3. Enrolment applications should also include:

- a) a photocopy of an identity document, back and front;
- b) a passport photograph;
- c) (only those who do not benefit from a grant) the receipts of the payment of the first instalment of the enrolment and attendance fee equal to € 452.62 which includes the revenue stamp, together with the receipt of the payments of the regional right-to-study tax as per art. 4 L.R. (Regional Law) 24.01.2006, No 2. The above-mentioned payments may also be done by means of the on-line procedure as per instructions available at the following address: http://www.studenti.unige.it/tasse/pagamento_online. Study-grant holders should just attach a € 14.62 revenue stamp onto their application.

Art. 9 – Withdrawals and Prohibitions

1. Enrolment on another course which assigns an academic qualification, even from other Universities, is not allowed, except for medical specialization courses. Enrolment of students already enrolled in medical specialization courses will be accepted with reserve while waiting for the new Ministerial Rules and Regulations concerning PhDs. Should the Rules and Regulations state incompatibility conditions, the candidate shall have to make a choice between the two courses.
2. Failure to obtain admission to the following year or exclusion due to serious default or unsuitable research activity results, in relation to the procedures established by the Teaching Body, shall cause the withdrawal of the grant and the obligation for the student to return the instalments already received for that year.
3. Doctoral students who forfeit their grant during the year owing to a higher income, but who continue their studies, shall return any grant instalments already received for that year.
4. Doctoral students with grants who drop out of the course have the right to keep the portion of the grant which corresponds to the period of activity, if and only if the Teaching Body states that the students' activities up to that moment were regular and fruitful.
5. Candidates who are found to have made false statements shall be excluded from the course. Criminal punitive measures for the issuing of false documentation and untruthful statements may also be applied.

Art. 10 – Access and Attendance Fees

1. Graduate students who do not benefit from a grant shall pay access and attendance fees in two instalments as follows:
 - a) the first instalment together with the regional right-to-study tax as per art. 8, paragraph 3, lett. c), shall be paid on enrolment.
 - b) the second instalment, amounting to € 700, shall be paid **by 01 July 2013**.
2. University fees and taxes, including the aforementioned regional tax, may vary yearly according to the decisions made by the relevant Authorities. The total of the second instalment for each School is established yearly for all the functioning cycles.
3. If payments are not carried out according to the above mentioned terms, interest shall be paid on arrears.

Art. 11 – Organisation of the Courses

1. The course starts officially on 1 of January 2013 and lasts three years.
2. Graduate students are required to perform their curricular activities, full-time, in accordance with the procedures established by the Teaching Body.
3. Regardless of the subject theme chosen by the candidate as per the aforementioned art. 3, paragraph 2, letter b), during the course the doctoral student shall carry out the research assigned to him/her by the Teaching Body.
4. Subject to the Teaching Body's approval, doctoral students may undertake support teaching in courses which take place in the University of Genoa, as per the University Rules and Regulations.
5. Doctoral students may take leave of absence from the course in the following cases which shall be fully and duly certified: maternity, paternity, illness, postgraduate Master degree attendance. Absences may be made up at the end of the course. Should this prove unfeasible, graduate students shall sit the final doctorate examinations in the following Ph.D. cycle. Should the course interruption last more than 30 days, grants shall be immediately withdrawn.
6. The provisions stated under the above paragraph withstanding, graduate students who discontinue the doctoral course in order to attend a Postgraduate Master's degree should notify their intentions and also the final date of the course. In this case the period of interruption cannot be less than 9 months.
7. Each year graduate students shall present a detailed written account of the activities carried out and present it to the Teaching Body and if required, discuss it according to the procedures established by the Teaching Body. Then the Teaching Body, after conferring with the tutor, shall draw up a resolution and proceed to admitting the students to the following year. Should a student's performance be insufficient, they shall ask the Chancellor to issue an order to exclude the student from continuing the course.
8. Before the beginning of each course, the graduate students who have been successfully admitted as per the above paragraph shall apply for enrolment for the following year. Students shall also – if required – enclose a copy of payment receipts as per art. 10, paragraph 1, letter a), in the amounts established yearly.

Art. 12 – Conferment of Qualification

1. The qualification of Ph.D. is obtained by completing the course and passing the final examination.

Art. 13 – Personal Data Protection

1. Personal data supplied by candidates will be collected by the University of Genoa, Post-Lauream Department, High Level Education and handled for selection and career procedures – as per Legislative Decree/Executive Order (D.L.vo) No. 196 of 30.06.2003.

Art. 14 – Availability and Information

1. This notice of public exam is available at the website of the University of Genoa at the following address <http://www.studenti.unige.it/dottorati>. Further information may be obtained directly from the Servizio Alta Formazione, via Bensa 1 second floor – Genova. *For information you may also phone 010/2095795 Mondays to Fridays during office hours. Fax: 010/2099539.*

Genoa, 29 June 2012

THE CHANCELLOR

Giacomo Deferrari

